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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/624,062	07/24/2000	Shoicho Hirota	81940.0001	6479

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HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.
500 S. GRAND AVENUE
SUITE 1900
LOS ANGELES, CA 90071-2611

EXAMINER

AKKAPEDDI, PRASAD R

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2871

DATE MAILED: 09/18/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/624,062

Applicant(s)

HIROTA ET AL.

Examiner

Prasad R Akkapeddi

Art Unit

2871

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 24 July 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 3.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The lengthy specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.
2. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because: it is more than 150 words. (Abstract should be less than 150 words). Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Suzuki et al (Suzuki) (U.S. Patent No. 6,433,845) in view of Itoh et al (Itoh) (U.S. Patent No. 5,485,295).

- a. As to claims 1, 6 and 13: Suzuki discloses a reflection-type color liquid crystal display apparatus comprising an active matrix substrate (12) provided with a plurality of pixels each having a switching element and a reflection electrode (53) in a matrix shape, a glass substrate (11) having a transparent electrode (51), a liquid crystal layer (20) arranged between the active matrix

substrate and the glass substrate, a phase plate (25) and a polarizing plate (15). Suzuki also discloses that the phase plate (25) converts linearly polarized light into circularly polarized light over a wide wavelength band (Col 7, lines 49-52). Although Suzuki discloses all the elements of a reflection type LCD, Suzuki does not explicitly go into the details of the projections of the Stokes parameters for the light polarized by the polarizer. However, Itoh in disclosing a similar liquid crystal display device, discloses the projections of Stokes parameters (S1, S2, S3) of the light between the phase plate and the liquid crystal layer on the S1-S2 plane constitute a substantially linear line over a wide wavelength band (Fig. 18a). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to adapt the projections of the Stokes parameters disclosed by Itoh to the liquid crystal display device disclosed by Suzuki to enhance the viewing performance by enhancing the contrast ratio of the device.

b. As to claims 2-4, 7-9, 11, 14-16: Suzuki discloses in his invention and also in the discussion of the prior art several combinations of retardation values for the liquid crystal having various states such as white and dark display modes, the twist angles, angles made by a transmission axis of the polarizing plate and a liquid crystal orientation direction on a side of the glass substrate, azimuth angles of the phase plate and retardation of the phase plate falls in a range of 100-700nm, 60-95 degrees, 15-135 degrees, -15 to -75 degrees respectively.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at

the time the invention was made to modify the above parameters (which are related to the contrast ratio Col 4, lines 47-66) as disclosed by Suzuki and the prior art disclosures to enhance the viewing performance by enhancing the contrast ratio and the brightness of the images.

2. Claims 5, 10, 12 and 17 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Suzuki and Itoh as applied to claim 1, 6, 11 and 17 above, and further in view of Vagyu (U.S. Patent No. 6,133,894).

Although Suzuki (Col 11, lines 30-33) discloses a color filter substrate with color layers of red, green and blue (primary colors), Suzuki does not disclose the use of a light source for irradiating the LCD with three primary colors and time switching on a time division basis. However, Vagyu in (Col 6, lines 31-53) discloses a light source for illuminating a liquid crystal display containing three primary colors and a method of switching between the three primary colors to obtain images. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to adapt the light source disclosed by Vagyu to the liquid crystal display device disclosed by Suzuki to provide high resolution images.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Prasad R Akkapeddi whose telephone number is 703-305-4767. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00AM to 5:30PM M-Th.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William L Sikes can be reached on 703-308-4842. The fax phone numbers

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for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9318 for regular communications and 703-872-9319 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0530.

RA

September 12, 2002

William L. Sikes

William L. Sikes
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2800